

**New Hampshire Public Interest Research Group  
New Hampshire Lakes Association  
Audubon Society of New Hampshire  
American Wind Energy Association**

MaryAnn Manoogian  
Governor's Office of Energy and Community Services  
57 Regional Drive  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear MaryAnn,

Thanks for the opportunity to participate in the NHEP planning process. We are pleased that our state is undertaking this important project, and believe the final document will be a useful tool for policymakers.

We appreciate being a part of the stakeholder work groups that ECS has convened, and wanted to provide you with some ideas as follow up to those meeting. Specifically, we would like to urge you to consider the following two scenarios for inclusion in those that you will test through the ENERGY2020.

First, we suggest a mechanism to increase the use of renewable energy in New Hampshire, such as a Renewable Portfolio Standard, or similar policy to encourage renewables. That's a scenario that many stakeholders wish to explore.

Secondly, we think it would be helpful for the Legislature, as it makes important decisions about our energy use in the coming years, to have the modeling results of a policy that gives an ambitious but realistic role to wind power and sets aggressive targets for energy efficiency and conservation.

During one of the stakeholder groups, discussion turned to finding a scenario that would have applications for more than one renewable energy source. We see the value in this approach, but question the appropriateness of applying one scenario across different renewables such as wind as solar that have very different costs and properties. Therefore, we believe that it makes more sense to treat wind power as a case study by itself, in order to capture as much information as possible about how quickly we can increase wind's share of the energy mix, the environmental and health costs and benefits, and the job creation impacts. One approach could be to model the impacts of siting 25 MW every year, starting in 2004 on through 2020. We believe that this is a realistic goal that should be part of our state's energy future.

On the energy efficiency side, we propose a scenario where the state reduces its energy use by 20 percent by 2010. We could meet that goal through increased funding for efficiency programs through the innovative performance contracting approach of the BECI program, tougher building codes with higher compliance rates, an expansion the

core programs administered by the electric utilities, and a host of other ideas found in the recent NHPIRG report.

Another subject we explored at the stakeholder meetings was if and how to take the environmental and public health costs of burning fossil fuels into account. Several studies (page 36 in the NHPIRG report) from universities, research groups, environmental organizations and DOE make it clear that including so-called "external costs" in the cost of generating power from coal and natural gas make those sources substantially more expensive than wind power and some other renewables.

A November 2001 report by the Renewable Energy Policy Project found that wind and solar PV provide 40% more jobs per dollar of cost (including capital, construction, and generating costs), compared to employment related to coal. The Tellus Institute has looked at the same question, and calculated that an aggressive Climate Protection Scenario could bring 2800 new jobs to New Hampshire by 2020. A comparison between jobs created per 300 MW of power for natural gas plants, wind farms and other methods for generating electricity appears on page 38 of the NHPIRG report.

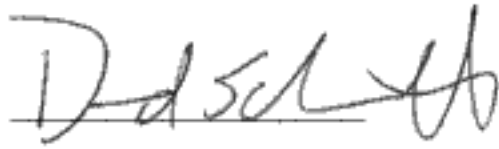
We hope you'll include aggressive renewable and efficiency scenarios in your final report, and we look forward to working with you to implement policies that create a vibrant, clean energy future for New Hampshire.

Please feel free to call with questions.

Sincerely,



Josh Irwin  
Director  
NHPIRG



David Schaarsmith  
Government Relations Manager  
New Hampshire Lakes Association



Julian Zelazny  
Environmental Policy Director  
Audubon Society of New Hampshire



Tom Gray  
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